(b) if so, the details of such castes, alongwith the basis for the reservation;

(c) what are the modalities of providing reservation; and

(d) what will be the percentage of seats proposed to be reserved out of total seats if any amendement in the Constitution is required?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) No, Sir. There is no proposal to provide reservation for other castes.

Increasing attacks on SCs & STs

59. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the steps taken by Government to stop increasing attacks against SCs and STs;

(b) whether Government will help the SCs/STs to approach the Human Rights Commission against the human right violations being committed by upper caste Hindus against them; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MAKEKA GANDHI):(a) Ministry of Home Affairs in their circular No. 24013/47/98-GPA, VI dated 12.11.98 addressed to the Chief Secretaries of the States/UT Administrations have reiterated their advice to give more focussed attention for improving administration of criminal justice system to ensure prevention of atrocities against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(b) and (c) Functions of the National Human Rights Commission have been laid down under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 and the Govt. will perform its duties accordingly.

Two glass system

60. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that "two glass system" is prevailing

in hotels and tea shops in some States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to stop growing attacks against SCs and STs by the upper caste Hindus?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) Information is being collected from States/UTs.

(c) Ministry of Home Affairs in their Circular letter No. 24013/47/98-GPA. VI, dated 12.11.98 addressed to Chief Secretaries of the States/UT Administration have reiterated their advice to give more focussed attention for improving administration of criminal justice system to ensure prevention of atrocities against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Welfare measures for destitute women of Vrindaban

61. SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of widows who have been deserted and left in Vrindaban by their relatives;

(b) whether Government propose to give them a subsistence allowance; and

(c) if so, how long will it take initate welfare measures for these destitute women suffering for a long time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) There is no definite information available with the Government about the number of widows living in Vrindaban. However, the reports made by the National Commission for Women and the Uttar Pradesh State Social Welfare Board show that their number ranges from 6000 to 20,000.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The following welfare measures have been taken by the Central and State Government for the Welfare of Widows in Vrindaban.

(i) The Central Government has set up a Committee under the